

82nd SESSION OF THE IMO MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The 82nd session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) was held in Istanbul, Turkey from 29 November to 8 December 2006. The meeting was hosted by the Turkish Government due to the refurbishment of the IMO Headquarters Building in London. Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos and Steve Shipman represented the IHO and representatives from the following Hydrographic Services of Member States were present: Argentina, China, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Japan and Tunisia.
2. MSC 82 adopted the revised ECDIS Performance Standards (PS) agreed during NAV 52 in July 2006. The MSC, at the request of Cyprus, also agreed to request NAV53 to take a further look at the PS with respect to the Human Element Analysing Process (HEAP) i.e. common layout of controls, common names or symbols for controls and a common output on the display for each control is included and to advise MSC 83 accordingly.
3. MSC adopted revisions to the 1994 and 2000 High Speed Craft Code making the carriage of ECDIS compulsory for new build craft from 1 July 2008 and for existing craft from 1 July 2010.
4. With regard to resolution A.888(21), *Criteria for the Provision of Mobile-Satellite Communication Systems in the Global Maritime Distress And Safety System (GMDSS)*, the MSC agreed that a Member State should submit the application, to become a new satellite service provider within the GMDSS, on behalf of a provider. The MSC will evaluate and if appropriate recognise the new provider for the GMDSS. The "Oversight" function will then be undertaken by the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) as is currently done for Inmarsat. Based on these decisions the MSC decided to send resolution A.888(21) back to COMSAR for finalisation and submission to the 25th Session of the IMO Assembly in December 2007. The MSC also instructed COMSAR 11 to prepare any consequential amendments to SOLAS IV.
5. With regard to Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) MSC decided to appoint IMSO as the LRIT Co-ordinator and invited them to take the necessary actions in order to ensure the timely implementation of LRIT.
6. The MSC noted that the Flag State Implementation (FSI) Sub-committee, as supported by the Safety of Navigation (NAV) Sub-committee, had recommended that the additional guidance regarding the provisions of SOLAS V in the IMO Voluntary Member State Audit Scheme provided by IHO should be made available to auditors and auditees alike. The MSC decided to inform the IMO Council of this outcome and instructed the FSI to keep

the proposed amendments to the annexes to the Code for the Implementation of Mandatory IMO Instruments resolution A.973(24) for future reference.

7. The MSC adopted the new Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS), amendments to existing TSS, new mandatory ship reporting systems and amendments to existing mandatory ship reporting systems proposed by NAV and agreed that these should be implemented at 0000 UTC on 1 July 2007.

8. The MSC agreed to the request from Norway, the United Kingdom and the IHO for a new work programme item for NAV to review and amend resolution A.572(14), as amended, (General Provisions on Ships' Routeing) to bring the symbology used into line with IHO publication M-4 (IHO Regulations for International Charts and Chart Specifications of the IHO) as requested in document MSC 82/21/3. This is due to be completed during NAV 53 in July 2007 and returned to the MSC for approval and subsequent adoption by the Assembly.

9. The MSC agreed to a request from Australia, France, Japan and the United Kingdom for the issuance of an MSC Circular confirming its support for the WWNWS, resolution A.706 (17) as amended and MSC/Circ.893 on Navigational Warnings Concerning Operations Endangering the Safety of Navigation.

10. The full report of the MSC will be posted on the IHO web site as soon as it becomes available. The next session of the MSC (MSC83) will be held at the newly refurbished offices of the IMO in London from 3 – 12 October 2007.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President